

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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GEORGIA DOT ANNOUNCES RECONSTRUCTED RAMP IS NOW OPEN AT I-985 EXIT 16 IN HALL COUNTY

OAKWOOD, Ga. – The Georgia Department of Transportation announces the reconstructed entrance ramp to Interstate 985 north from State Route 53/Mundy Mill Road at Exit 16 is now open for your use. The ramp opened today at 2:38 p.m.

"As part of the \$75 million reconstruction project under way in Oakwood, the Mundy Mill Road entrance ramp to I-985 north had to be rebuilt to accommodate the access from the interstate to State Route 13, new exit 17. The ramp from Mundy Mill Road closed October 15, 2008 and opened today, 2 days ahead of the March 1 deadline," explained Georgia DOT District Engineer Russell McMurry. "We will now get the benefit of two access points to the interstate. The new ramp from State Route 13 to I-985 north will remain open for you to use. Congestion in the area will be greatly reduced. We look forward to seeing even more congestion reduced as this project finishes."

The overall reconstruction project on I-985 at Exit 16 and 17 including the widening of SR 53 and SR 13 is currently ahead of schedule. The completion date is December 31, 2009 at a construction cost of \$74 million.

"Please slow down and pay extra attention as you use the new ramp. The new ramp is much longer than the old one and looks completely different. You will be able to see the exit ramp to SR 13 that is still under construction. Please don't be distracted. Remember, it is still an active work zone," said McMurry.

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about this or any other construction project on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at www.511ga.org.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia's economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site (www.dot.ga.gov).